

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS.

MINOR BREAC.

Hamilton's shoe store, 412 Broadway... Davis sells glass... Stovick Carpet Co., 205-207 Bwy.

NO DECISION YET REACHED

Special Committee of Council Hardly Knows What to Do with Railroad Ordinance.

MEMBERS ARE SAID TO LEAN BOTH WAYS

Want to Encourage the Fort Dodge & Omaha Road and at the Same Time Want to Protect Rights of Property Owners.

The special committee to which was referred for examination and amendment the ordinance submitted by the Fort Dodge & Omaha railroad, providing for the vacation of certain streets, avenues and alleys, has as yet done little or nothing with the matter.

The committee has not yet reached a decision as to in what respect the ordinance should be amended. Unless the committee takes some action today, it will not be ready to report at the adjourned council meeting tonight.

The committee is in somewhat of a predicament and hardly knows what to recommend. While on the one hand it realizes that every encouragement should be given the Fort Dodge & Omaha road to enter Council Bluffs, and that it should have the same rights and facilities as the other roads.

On the other hand, the members of the committee feel that property owners in the immediate vicinity of the streets sought to be vacated have rights which must be protected, and further, that it is not fair to grant the privilege of return for granting the privilege sought by the railway company.

The committee is in favor of some amendment to the ordinance which will contain a clause providing that the railway company shall in return for the granting by the city of the privileges asked for, agree to spend a certain sum of money on a passenger depot, which will be an ornament to the city, and expend other money in improvements of a like nature.

It also believes that before the city vacates the streets and avenues as asked for, some provision should be made requiring the railroad company to protect the crossings at the intervening points. The Fort Dodge & Omaha road owns all the lots in the plat of Burket place, there can be no objection to the vacation of the streets and alleys running through it.

Under the law, as it now stands, it is the right of the city to vacate the streets and alleys as asked for, there is little or no opposition to the vacation of avenue H, I, J and K, and all these thoroughfares are already closed at Twelfth street by the yards of the Northwestern railroad. Almost the entire block between the street and the vacated avenue A and the thoroughfare west of Thirteenth street is practically closed to traffic by the tracks of the motor company. The principal objection to the closing of this portion of avenue A comes from the owners of the real estate company, which claims certain franchise rights therein, but it is a question whether the Manawa company has not already forfeited whatever rights it may have held under its franchise through failure to extend the same.

It is, however, considerable opposition to the city vacating Avenue C, as it affords a highway for east and west traffic that is valuable because the next avenue north does not run through it. The city vacated Avenue D in place of C. The Fort Dodge & Omaha road people say that it is absolutely imperative that one of two avenues at this point be vacated so as to afford them standing room for their freight cars, and that the vacating of the streets and alleys within a settlement between them and the railroad company has been reached. The property has acquired practically all of the property in the blocks immediately abutting on the avenues sought to be vacated. There are fifteen or so lots that still belong to private parties. These owners declare they are perfectly willing to sell, but that the Fort Dodge & Omaha railway people are not willing to purchase at the price that is asked. It is said that the price asked are reasonable and on the other the railway people say they are not only too high, but are exorbitant and further insinuate that these property owners are playing a game of "hold up."

Most strenuous opposition to the ordinance comes from those property owners who have lots abutting on the avenues sought to be vacated and in the blocks adjoining. They insist that the ordinance should make no provision for the vacation of these streets and alleys until a settlement between them and the railroad company has been reached. The property has acquired practically all of the property in the blocks immediately abutting on the avenues sought to be vacated. There are fifteen or so lots that still belong to private parties. These owners declare they are perfectly willing to sell, but that the Fort Dodge & Omaha railway people are not willing to purchase at the price that is asked.

It is said that among the building improvements to be carried out in Council Bluffs this spring are the large brick buildings to be erected by the Krug Brewing company of Omaha. The company has acquired the title to property on the corner of Main and Willow streets, and the building to be erected on the corner of Story street and as soon as spring opens will begin the erection of brick blocks at both places.

United States Marshal "Bill" Richards left last evening for Corning, in response to a telegram from Sheriff William Gibson, stating that the safe in the auditor's office had been blown open Sunday night and \$300 stolen. Deputy Richards is of the opinion that the same parties who burglarized so many non-offices in this section of the country during the last few weeks are responsible for the robbery at Corning.

Some half a dozen bidders were present yesterday morning when County Treasurer Arnd put up for auction the delinquent pieces of property which he has received from the annual tax sale last December. The bidders were there to buy and the list was pretty well cleaned up, but the very few pieces unsold, most of the remaining unsold delinquent property consists of cheap city lots against which there are heavy special taxes due. Most of the property is in fact, February 12, when Treasurer Arnd will make another attempt to clean up the "scavenger" list.

At a recent session of the city council the one-story frame building at 24 Fourth street was condemned and its owner, John Norton, was ordered to have the same removed. He failed to comply with the order and yesterday the city commenced suit against him in the superior court asking that the building be decreed a nuisance and dangerous to the health, lives and property of persons and further that a decree be issued commanding the city marshal to remove and abate same. The city also asks that Norton be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor and fined in a sum not exceeding \$25 for refusing to comply with the order of the city council.

Plain sewing, tailoring in repairing clothes. Mrs. G. H. Baker, 146 Vine street.

Chris Rosen May Not Recover. Chris Rosen, who received serious injuries by falling from a building on which he was working last Friday, is in a critical condition and fears are entertained for his recovery.

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A Card of Thanks. Mr. Fred Kirk and family of 813 Avenue E wish to return their sincere thanks to their friends for their many acts of kindness to them during the sad trials connected with the sickness and death of the wife and mother, Mrs. Mary Kirk.

SMALLPOX ON THE INCREASE

Twenty Cases of Rather Mild Type Develop at Three More Towns.

SYNDICATE BUYS THE MIDLAND MONTHLY

Pair of Safe Crackers Who Visited